

21 March, 2001

RAJYA SABHA

Tackling terrorist outfits in Himachal Pradesh

2781. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have made any efforts/taken any steps to tackle the terrorists outfits creating problems in the hilly areas of Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The measures taken by the Government include keeping strict vigil over the areas in Chamba district bordering upon Doda and Kathua district in Jammu and Kashmir, gearing up the intelligence machinery, deployment of additional forces at strategic points, coordinated action by the Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir Police etc. In addition, Government has been regularly sensitizing all State Governments and concerned agencies regarding militant activities. Intelligence is shared on continuous basis and support is provided by way of financial assistance for modernizing the State Police Forces and deployment of Central para-military forces on need basis.

Declaration of new State by naxalites

2782. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the declaration made by naxalites to the effect that a new State namely 'Dandakaranya' would be brought into existence under which the areas namely Bastar of Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha of

^t Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.